THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 10 November 29, 1995

ACC argues admission standards

Delilah Larimore
Associate editor

The Academic Policies Committee of the ACC (All College Committee) submitted a revised proposal to raise the admission standards at Fitchburg State College (FSC) for the 1996-97 academic year.

Dr. Lee DeNike of the Communications Department and Dr. Richard Bisk of the Mathematics department made a formal presentation to the ACC, presenting a proposal for raised admission standards over the next five years. The ACC, composed of faculty, administrators, and students, is the governing body for the college.

In 1993 a meeting was held for concerned faculty and administrators with an idea of lowering admission standards, an idea that former FSC president Vincent Mara supported. "We should raise the standards, not lower them," said DeNike. "We need to improve the image of who we are." The ACC proposal plans to maintain and improve enrollment and attract better students to the college. "We want to increase the value of our grade," said DeNike.

If the proposal goes through, it will increase the difficulty of getting into FSC. The college's standard Scholastic Apptitude Test (SAT) admision scores will increase to 1000 in 1996 and 25 points each year thereafter for five years. If you are a traditional freshman recently out of high school, there are certain courses you must take before entry is allowed. A minimum high school GPA of 2.5 is recommended for college preparatory work. Any applicant who has a GPA lower than 2.5 must have a certain SAT score to be considered for admission.

In the past six years the average SAT score, as well as the mathematics placement exam results, have steadily been decreasing.

Faculty meets to discuss raising admission standards. photo by Anna Allen

Stanley Koplik, Chancellor of the Higher Education Coordinating Council is fully supporting the proposal to raise admission standards. Koplik currently has a proposal before the Higher Education Coordinating Council to achieve higher admission standards for all public colleges and universities.

The proposal before the ACC argues that, "while these proposed standards are a step in the right direction for public higher education, FSC must still differentiate itself from the rest of the system if it is to be viewed as the outstanding public college, a university education in a small college setting."

Continued on page 3.

Political Science holds forum

by Emily Petipas
Staff writer

Students interested in Political Science are invited to attend a Political Science Forum on Wednesday, December 6, at 3:30 p.m. in Miller oval.

The meeting will explore the Political Science minor, and discuss the opportunities available to a non-Political Science minor. Students interested in campaigning for local politicians and related activities should also plan on attending the meeting.

"In such an interesting arena as Political Science, we are giving students an opportunity to learn more about the field," said Political Science professor, Eric Budd.

Ten students are currently enrolled in Political Science and Budd hopes this meeting will increase student involvement.

The forum will also inform the college community about Political Science internships. Due to the election next year the availability of internships has risen.

Recently, Fitchburg State has been going through state legislation to add a Political Science major to the curriculum. The professors are looking at the meeting as a device to determine if there is enough student interest to pursue this.

"We are working on strengthening the minor," said Budd. "The meeting will give students a chance to learn about the minor, not to mention contribute their opinions to the college."

Smokeout results

Health Services sponsored FSC's Great American Smokeout On Thursday, November 16 in G -Lobby in an attempt to encourage FSC community smokers to kick the habit, if only for one day.

Adam Newell, Brian Mitchell, and Jessica Roy traded in their full packages of cigarettes to enter a drawing. Adam won a one month membership to a local health club, and Brian and Jessica won gift certificates for free Domino's Pizza.

Winston Bernal adopted his friend Kristin Kinville to help her quit this habit. Winston won a free Domino's Pizza, and Kristin won a one month membership to a local health club and a free Domino's Pizza.

All of the winners remain smoke-free, or have drastically cut down on their cigarette consumption.

In This Issue

Men's and Women's basketball previews. Story on page 11

Defending the right to bear arms. Story on page 6

Norman profiles volleyball athletes. Story page 10

Hockey season off to a not so great start. Falcon fans face a disappointing season opener.

Story page 12

Livingston Taylor to perform tomorrow

FSC Press Release

Singer/ Songwriter Livingston Taylor will perform at Fitchburg State College on Nov. 30 at 8p.m. in Weston Auditorium.

The concert, sponsored by the college's Alumni Association, will also feature recording artist Ellis Paul. Tickets are $15 and are available through Ticketmaster or by calling (508) 665-3400.

Taylor has recorded five albums, including his self-titled debut in 1971, "Liv," and "Over the Rainbow," which featured the Wizard of Oz classic that has become one of Taylor's standards. His "Three Way Mirror" LP, recorded on the Epic label, included his biggest hits, "I Will Be in Love With You," and its sequel, "I'll Come Running."

As host of "This Week's Music," a modern day American Bandstand, Taylor brought to the screen a series of popular recording artists.

Ellis Paul is a Boston-based recording artist whose CDs include "Say Something" and "Stories." He has performed in some of the most prestigious clubs and festivals in America. According to the Boston Globe, "No emerging songwriter in recent memory has been more highly touted or respected by other songwriters."

Alcohol policy sees more changes

by Derek Valcourt
Editor-in-Chief

Check your dorm rooms before your RA's do. The college's revised alcohol policy which prohibits the consumption and possession of hard liquor on the FSC campus by students, college employees, and guests went into effect on Sunday.

Possession of hard liquor, which includes rum, vodka, whiskey, gin and other similar liquors as well as mixed drink coolers, will result in penalties that include attendance at alcohol education sessions, fines, and temporary loss of residence.

The decision to ban hard alcohol at FSC by President Riccards follows a similar resolution adopted by the Higher Education Coordinating Council to oppose the distribution of hard liquor on public college campuses.

But changes to the alcohol policy do not stop there. Beer balls and boxed wines have been added to the list of common sources of alcohol which are not allowed in residence halls. Wine

continued on page 2

Professor debuts documentary

FSC Press Release

An hour-long documentary revealing the drama that's played out every day in urban classrooms will be screened as part of a distinguished Harrod Lecture at Fitchburg State College on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 3:30 p.m. in the Conlon Building's Richard Kent Recital Hall.

In "Teachers' Stories, Children's Lives," Communications/Media professor Elliot Hoffman offers a cinema verite look at the revealing imagery of elementary education. The work was filmed at the college's McKay Campus School on 10 typical school days over a span of three months.

The Harrod Lecture Series is named after Professor Walter F. Harrod, a retired member of FSC's Industrial Technology Department, who served on the faculty for 29 years. The public is welcome to attend the lecture free of charge.

"Much of the film centers around two teachers as they cope with not just the academic, but the emotional and physical needs of large classes of elementary school children," explained Hoffman. "There are dramatic moments each and every day as the students and teachers struggle to understand themselves and each other."

There is a delicate balance, he noted, between success and frustration in an environment that features interruptions, distractions, and outbursts. "Many of the children come from homes that struggle with poverty," said Hoffman, "and their focus in the classroom can be clouded by problems at home." To deal with these issues, public school teachers develop innovative teaching methods.

Hoffman, who heads the interactive multimedia program at the college, was co-producer and director of photography for the 1980 dramatic production of "A Good Example: Berlot Brecht Before the House Un-American Activities Committee," which won first prize at the American Film Festival. He also produced and directed a video drama, entitled "Lenny and Skip," and several other productions.

He has supervised a number of student documentaries produced for area non-profit agencies and an interactive multi media production for the college's admissions department.

Alcohol Policy. . . continued from page 1

bottles can contain no more than 750 ml, a change from the one liter limit.

One other change to the policy says that alcohol beverage service must be provided by Daka if beer and wine is to be served at on-campus locations other than the Pub.

The current policy now limits students to one 4-pack of wine coolers OR one 6-pack of 12 oz. beers OR one bottle of wine no larger than 750 ml.

Business department presents alumni awards

FSC Press Release

Fitchburg State College graduates, along with three others, were honored for their achievements at a recent on-campus ceremony sponsored by the Business Administration Department.

The awards recognized outstanding achievements in careers, education, community affairs, or at the college. The recipients were: as follows.

Diane Cushnette-King, a business administration graduate of the college and national manager at Coopers & Lybrand Consulting (CLC). She has successfully re-structured CLC Creative Services departments in Boston and New York, and is currently working with Chicago's branch. The effort involves reengineering processes and technology, changing management, and redesigning the organization's overall culture and structure, resulting in improved customer service. She is a member of Who's Who of American Women and Who's Who of the World.

Alfred M. Manerson, a 1986 business administration graduate of the college and regional promotions manager at EPIC Records, INC., in Atlanta. He has worked on recording projects that have achieved gold or platinum status. His skills include public relations, promotional strategies, marketing, inventor control, and problem solving. He has worked on various promotional projects with recording artists including Michael Jackson, Luther Van Dross, Baby Face, The Deal, and Sade. He was nominated for Atlanta Coca-Cola's Music Award for "Promotional Rep of the Year" in 1994 and named "Promotion Man of the Year" in 1992.

Captain Philip Schoenig, a 1987 business administration graduate and an officer in the U.S. Army. He is test and evaluation director for the Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. His responsibilities include: planning and conducting technical evaluations of developmental systems. He has over 11 years experience in management and logistics experience as a transportation manager in the field, including waterways, highways, rail and air. His article entitled "Mountain Highway Bake Testing" was published in the Army Research, Development & Acquisition Magazine. His awards and decorations include: National Defense Transportation Association Distinguished Award for 1990, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon.

Special achievement awards were presented to Donna Foley, registrar of the college, Joseph McAloon, associate professor of business administration, and John J. Boursy, professor emeritus of business administration.

McKay earns "Accelerated" Designation

FSC Press Release

Fitchburg State College's McKay Campus School has been named one of the new Massachusetts Accelerated Schools for the 1995-1996 school year.

McKay was chosen from among the many schools who applied through the 1996 Massachusetts Competitive Grants Package.

The Accelerated Schools program represents a specific philosophy and process for transforming schools, with an emphasis on enrichment rather than remediation. McKay will seek to create a campus-wide unity of purpose encompassing the McKay children and their parents, as well as teachers and professors at McKay and Fitchburg State, the school's staff. Decision-making will be extended to all groups as the school seeks to build on its collective strengths. The McKay School Council, along with the state Curriculum Frameworks, will be integral components of the effort.

One element of the program is the need for a "district coach" who will serve as a resource person, attend meetings, consult with the associate dean-principal, and work with the implementation team to coordinate the re-structuring. The coach will also act as a liaison with the college and the city administration, participate in department coaches' training and statewide network meetings, and communicate regularly with the Department of Education liason. The coach may be a staff person who has district-wide responsibilities, or a retired teacher, principal, or college faculty member. Anyone interested in becoming the McKay Campus School Accelerated Schools Coach should contact Nicholas Quaratiello at (508) 665-3790 before Friday, Dec. 1.

ABC voted best student chapter

Press Release

The Fitchburg State College student chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors visited Fitchburg City Hall Thursday night, November 9. ABC met in the Council Chambers and were recognized by Mayor Jeff Bean, President of City Council Ronald Ingemie, and the Council members for the city of Fitchburg, for having been voted the best student chapter of ABC in the nation.

Accepting the award on behalf of the Fitchburg chapter were Antonio Petroe, current chapter President; Kyle Reagan, former chapter President; James Andrews, faculty advisor for the chapter, and newly appointed President of Fitchburg State College, Dr. Michael Riccards. Also in attendance were Na vy Dao, Tracy Barber, and Brian Campbell.

Quote for the Week:

"Maybe this year he'll get a Mrs. Potato Head. Hey, I can always dream."

-Mr. Potato Head
Toy Story
1995 Disney Production

Education Conference invites community participation

FSC Press Release

After a five-year hiatus, the popular in-service educator's program, "Diversity on Common Ground: Best Practices," will be offered a Fitchburg State College on March 15.

Although the original intent of the conference was to use teachers as workshop facilitators, all previous events have solicited community presenters. In recognition of the fact that schools interact with community resources on a daily basis. Organizers are now inviting community members to submit workshop proposals for the conference.

Superintendents from the school systems of Fitchburg, Leominster, North Middlesex, Gardener, Narragansett, Montahusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Athol, Winchendon, Shirley, Wachusett, and Quabbin, along with representatives from Fitchburg State and Mount Wachusett Community College's, have once again pooled their resources to offer this one-day in-service event to their faculty.

First held at FSC in 1988, and continued at Mount Wachusett Community College in 1989 and 1990, the day-long event will bring together more than 2,000 teachers to participate in more than 150 hands-on workshops. The original intent of the 1988 conference was "teachers teaching teachers," and the theme continues with the 1996 event. The title has been slightly modified to include the words "Best Practices."

The upcoming conference is being overseen by Dr. Louis Amadio, former Leominster school superintendent, who is now director of the Professional Development Center at FSC, and Claudia Gallant, program coordinator of the PDC. Sebelle Deese of Creative Educational Consultants in Gardener has been hired to be the project coordinator for the event.

This year's conference will offer professional development points for the participants. Topics will include inclusion; technology; oral language proficiency in foreign languages; authentic assessments: performance, portfolio; integrated instruction; educational reform issues; behavior management/ DSS: abuse and neglect; writing across the curriculum; multiculturalism/cultural awareness and appreciation; developmental guidance; middle school issues: teaming, scheduling, exploratories, overall content, philosophy; applied academics/school to work; administration environmental education; multi-age classroom; looping; and specialty/subject area workshops.

Conference planners also recognize the valuable part that vendors play in providing teachers with resources, books, materials, equipment, and information for classroom enhancement. Vendors are encouraged to respond to this appeal if they wish to display their products and services in the Hammond Library on the day of the event. Products may be sold or given away.

Prospective vendors and community presenters are encouraged to contact Sebelle Deese at (508) 630-1242 or Claudia Gallant at the Fitchburg State Professional Development Center at (508) 665-3636 for more information. Presenters are asked to respond by Dec. 1, vendors by Feb. 1.

Eight FSC students arrested

by Sonja H. Randall
Copy Editor

Eight Fitchburg State College students were arrested at local bars Thursday, Nov. 16 for the illegal possession of alcohol.

Tania M. Sloan, 19; Kathryn A. Samay, 18; Eric C. O'Connell, 19; Brian P. Condon, 20; and Tara M. O'Connor, 19: were arrested at Major's Cafe after it came to the attention of police officers that minors had regularly been served there.

A similar check at JR's Place resulted in the arrests of Haley Dextradeur, 18; Gary D. Morrow, 19; and Matthew A. Rinki, 20.

According to the Sentinel & Enterprise, all eight were released from the Fitchburg Police station after paying a $25 fee.

Disciplinary measures against the bars could result in written warnings or suspension of alcoholic beverage licenses. Students face charges and sanctions with the college's Judiciary Board.

Admission standards, continued from page 1.

This proposal would also require that all applicants submit a standardized exam score, with the exception of transfers and those with documented learning disabilities. Those applicants with a special talent must be approved by the academic department in which they wish to major and meet a minimum standardized exam score. Discretionary admission will be allowed for one percent of applicants. "This proposal for raising admission standards will not effect current FSC students at all," said Lee DeNike.

The proposal follows the philosophy that the college would be most attractive to academically prepared high school graduates and their families. "We are very hopeful that this proposal will go through," said DeNike.

Some possible results of this proposal are: FSC's number of students on academic probation will improve substantially, the diversity of the FSC student body will be maintained or enhanced and enrollment at FSC will not be significantly affected.

"I have generally supported the effort to raise the admission standards here and throughout the system," said Dr. Michael Riccards. "But I think the standards probably have to be broader than simply S.A.T. scores."

The Academic Policies Committee votes on the referendum today. If approved, the ACC will vote on raising the standards on December 6.

DYNAMIC PART TIME TEACHERS WANTED-

Kaplan, leading test prep firm, has openings for graduate students with great scores and strong presentation skills to teach LSAT, GMAT, GRE, and SAT preparation programs. Interested applicants should fax resume and score history to: Elisa Heinricher at KAPLAN 508-756-9060.

Announcements

Winter Wonderland, sponsored by the class of 1988 and S.G.A., will be held on Friday, December 1, 1995 at the Best Western in Fitchburg. Cost is $30.00 per person and $55.00 for a couple. This includes dinner and dancing.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is hosting a party on Saturday, November 11, 1995 at Curtis Hall of Tufts University, from 9 pm to 1 am. Admission is $3. College ID required. The shuttle bus is available from Davis Square T-stop.

Attention Students:
0014 Art Criticism M,W,R, 2:30 FULLFILLS INTERSDISCIPLINARY REQUIREMENT

"D.Y.N.A.S.T.Y.", a dance and vocal performing group, & "Project Concern", an inner city youth dance group, have united to bring a performance to Weston Auditorium, on December 7, 1995, from 7:00-11:00 p.m. Tickets are $2.00 for FSC students with ID and $3.00 for general public.

The National Library of Poetry has announced that $24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for the ontest is Deember 31, 1995. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style, to The National Library of Poetry, 1149 Cronridge Dr., P.O.. Box 704-1986, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 1995. A new contest opens January 1, 1996.

The National Library of Poetry, founded in 1982, is the largest poetry organization in the world.

Newman Center December Schedule
Christmas Confessions:
Tuesday, December 5th until 3:30 pm.

Feast of the Immaculate Coneption
Vigil Mass - Thursday, December 7th until 4:30 pm.

Christmas Mass
Saturday, Deember 9th until 7:00 pm., followed by a reception

Next Week in *The Strobe*:

Meet FSC's Country Line dancing instructor.

Catch up on the season's sports in *The Strobe*'s last issue of the semester.

AIDS in the work place

by Brian Rule
Contributing writer

The plague of the 21st century has moved out of the bedroom and into the office. AIDS is now a part of everyone's average workday. The man or woman sitting next to you could have the HIV virus, but could they pass it on to you?

During the FSC AIDS awareness day, Dr. Rick Williams spoke to students and staff about AIDS in the workplace.

Williams is the world-wide manager for AIDS awareness within the Polaroid company. According to the June' 95 article in Personnel Journal, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 90 percent of HIV infected aamericans are in the workplace. Williams said, "It is our responsibility to teach the people within our company about this deadly disease." Personnel Journal also reported that well over 50 percent of employees said that AIDS awareness training should be mandatory.

Teaching employers about HIV and AIDS will better equip managers and employees with information which could save their lives and help the business. "Thirty to forty percent of employees are badly informed about HIV, and 10 to 20 percent of employees are unsure whether they have HIV or not," said Williams.

"People living and working with AIDS are not any less productive or capable than employees living without the virus."

Half of all working Americans consider AIDS their chief health concern, according to Personnel Journal. There must be more education within the business environment to satisfy the concerns of the employees. "A company must have on-going communication with its employees in order for the business to run smoothly," said Williams.

As reported by the journal, only 50 percent of all US businesses have AIDS awareness programs. Of that 50 percent, most have found that employees want to know more about HIV and AIDS. Within these companies, employers have found that the better informed their employees are, the smoother the business runs.

"Fear is our greatest concern because it disrupts the employees and slows their production," said Williams. "People living and working with AIDS are not any less productive or capable than employees living without the virus."

The Nutcracker will be presented by Dance Prism on December 9th at 7:30 pm, in Weston Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

International Education office

by Kris Veno
Copy editor

"International Education: Please Walk In," reads the sign on the door in the Sander's Administration Building. With smiling eyes and a friendly hello, the founder and director of the two and a half year old International Education (Int. Ed.) office at Fitchburg State is as welcoming as the door greeting.

Cuban born, well-travelled Christina Sosa helps exchange students adapt to the US and its college environment and sets up study abroad sessions for the students here at FSC.

"Mostly what this office does," Sosa explains, "is it services international students that come here to study," adding that seventeen Japanese undergraduates attend FSC this semester. She provides counseling to these students, as well as to any student interested in going overseas to study.

"(The office) establishes exchange agreements with other schools in different parts of the world," Sosa said. Twenty-one different countries are represented. "The office is trying to expand by recruiting more students from more countries."

Sosa herself has traveled to over thirty different countries around the world, including all of the Caribbean, Turkey, Singapore, and Italy, in addition to various states in the US. Her interest in Int. Ed. started during her years as a political science major at UMass Amherst.

"I wanted to go into diplomacy," Sosa recalls. "but then I got an internship with U-Mass' International Education. I suppose this is some sort of diplomacy, though." After graduation from UMass, Sosa started working at their Int. Ed. office.

She enjoyed the college environment, and in 1993, brought Int. Ed. to Fitchburg State.

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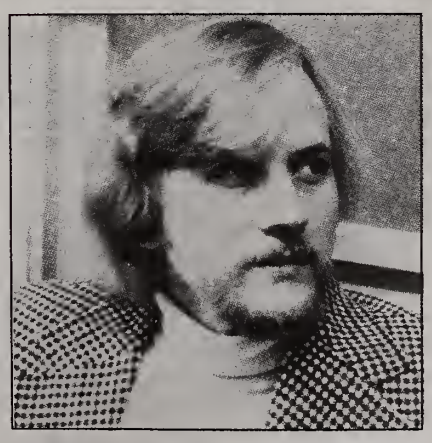
Seventies Flashback

Can you guess which FSC faculty and staff are shown here in their 70's stage?



Police log

POLICE LOG - November 5-11

Sunday, November 5, 1995
FIRE ALARM - False alarm pulled at Russell Towers.
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY - Three persons going through the trash at Holmes loading dock checked out and dispersed from the area.

Monday, November 6, 1995
DISPERSAL - Several local youths playing football were dispersed from the North Street Lot. Advised them not to play in the lot while cars were parked there.
J-BOARD - Hearings attended by officers.

Tuesday, November 7, 1995
MOTOR VEHICLE - Towed from North Street Lot for having an expired registration.
LARCENY - Of FSC property from an office in the Conlon IA Building.
FIRE ALARM - Steam from a shower set off the alarm at the Town Houses.
MOTOR VEHICLE - Stolen from a Cedar Street residence was recovered behind Herlihy Hall. Owner was notified.

Wednesday, November 8, 1995
DISTURBANCE - Intoxicated male in Herlihy Hall causing a problem with residents.
MEDICAL/RESCUE CALL - Resident of Aubuchon Hall refused transport to Burbank Hospital.
LARCENY - Of personal property from Parkinson Gym reported.
FIRE ALARM - Smoke detector activated in Aubuchon Hall. Unknown reason.

Thursday, November 9, 1995
NOISE COMPLAINT - Large group yelling outside of Russell Towers was gone upon our arrival.
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY - Caller reported seeing a male run behind Russell Towers. Area checked. All OK at this time.
MEDICAL/RESCUE CALL - Female in Russell Towers complaining of leg pain. Refused medical attention. Will go to Health Services in the morning.

Friday, November 10, 1995
REQUEST FOR POLICE - Alarms sounding in the Hammond Building. Checked building and reset alarms.
FIRST AID CALL - FSC Rescue attended a female in Aubuchon Hall with a minor ankle injury.
DISPERSAL - Three students on rollerblades from the Athletic Field.
MEDICAL/RESCUE CALL - Staff member injured while working. Refused treatment.

Saturday, November 11, 1995
REQUEST FOR POLICE - Unwanted guest at Russell Towers causing a disturbance. Escorted male out of the building.
MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATION - Spoke with operator of car who had parked on the Quad thinking it was a parking lot. Had car moved.
GENERAL SERVICE - Notified FSC Grounds Department staff about the fallen tree at the Town Houses.

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The Strobe considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. All articles must be typed or legibly hand-written and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to a Strobe article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

The Strobe is the student newspaper of Fitchburg State College. The reprinting of any material herein is prohibited without the express written consent of the Editor-in-Chief. All material submitted to *The Strobe* becomes the property of *The Strobe*.

Keep your arms to yourself

Delilah is Senior Communications major

by Delilah Larimore
Associate Editor

The Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America states, "The right of the people to bear arms shall not be infringed." This is part of the Bill of Rights established by our forefathers. This is one argument.

The question posed, "Why should people be allowed to own guns?" Our forefathers fought and died for our "Right to keep and bear arms." Guns were, and still are, used in the struggle between freedom and enslavement.

A statement was made that the U.S. Constitution and the Second Amendment is not a valid argument in the war against the right to own guns. "The U.S. Constitution is very old," he said. "It was written a long time ago when people had to carry guns on them, that was the old west." "Things aren't like that any more."

Yes, the Constitution is very old, but that doesn't mean it's invalid. I'll also agree that things were different back then. Although I have to disagree that the Constitution is not a valid argument. Did we all forget the rest of the U.S. Constitution? What about the First Amendment? Is it not true that if not for the First Amendment that even this student newspaper would not have the right to print such articles. We would not be able to voice our opinions. "Freedom of the Press," we cry. Our Constitution protects our rights. "Freedom of speech," enables us to say what we want. No matter how old the Constitution is, it is still what protects our very rights and all mentioned above. If you feel that the Constitution is old and should be changed as our "Right to bear arms," than so should the "Freedom of speech, and press," and all the rest, don't you agree?

A gun is nothing more than a tool. People give bad connotations to guns. A gun is a tool that does what it's designed to do: "shoot a projectile." A car is a tool that can move at speeds past 100 miles an hour. Why is a gun thought of as a deadly weapon, but not a car? Cars are accepted by society as a means of transportation. Society feels that guns are "bad." Why? Take either tool, a car or a gun, misuse it, and either is dangerous. People have to get a license to drive a car. Is it not true that people also have to get a license to own a gun? Carelessness with either makes a weapon. It's all a matter of handling.

The reasons people get hurt are accidents, mishandling, or malicious intent. The gun by itself isn't dangerous, it's how the person handles it. Just as with cars, you have to be trained how to drive it before you are allowed to drive one, and it'sthe same with guns. You have a duty to get trained before you put this tool into your hands. A trained person would check to see if the gun were loaded, and if it was, they would unload it and make sure it's not pointing in the vicinity of another. A trained person wouldn't leave a loaded gun accessible to a child. Guns, like all other things, have rules to be respected and followed. If they aren't, dangerous situations arise. Guns don't kill, people kill.

Target shooting is a sport that has kept people happy and entertained for many years. Setting up a target and competing to see who is better is, for some people, a hobby. Hunting animals such as rabbit, deer, or elk is another hobby that many enjoy as well. Whether you enjoy either of these, or not, this is a sport you must be trained for and have skill to participate in, like any other sport such as football or baseball.

Many cry that people shouldn't be allowed to own guns because they are dangerous, people get shot and killed, children play with their parents' guns and accidentally shoot themselves.

"What about the drive-by shootings and guns being sold on they street," they cry. So what! I'm not saying that isn't bad, but that's not everyone's fault. The average Joe on the street who carries a gun to the store at midnight because he doesn't want to be robbed, isn't at fault because Bobby is a criminal or because Susy shot herself with daddy's gun. Think of all the people that were saved because they owned a gun, or how happy the gun collectors are that they get to keep their favorite tools. If people took as much care with their guns as they do their cars, there wouldn't be many problems. As for the criminals, we cannot, no matter how hard we try, stop them from getting guns.

People have the right to defend themselves. While I have faith in my local police depart-

continued on page 7

Tulips + Tolerance

Melanie Wittmier
Contributing Writer

During my travels through Europe, no place was as full of life as Holland. This tiny country is filled with so much social liberalism and openness towards alternative lifestyles that I felt like I was in the center of the universe.

I first visited Nijmegen, a mid-sized Dutch town, about two years ago. Talking to Dutch teenagers, I was amazed at their ability to speak openly about sexual issues. Their society maintains a very liberal outlook towards sexual intercourse between teenagers. Instead of trying to prevent teens from having sex, parents make sure they are well informed on sexual issues, especially safe sex.

"I was amazed at their ability to speak openly about sexual issues."

It is not uncommon for a fourteen year old Dutch girl to be taking oral contraceptives. This doesn't necessarily mean she is engaging in sex, but rather that she is protected.

Condoms are distributed freely in Dutch high schools, and no one seems to have a problem with this because it is just another part of a national awareness of sexuality. Not surprisingly, the pecentage of teenage pregnancies in Holland is one of the smallest in the world.

When in Holland, it is not unusual to see two men holding hands or two women kissing each other in public. While it certainly catches your attention at first, I noticed that I was the only one staring at the homosexual couples caressing each other so freely. I was not used to the amount of respect that Dutch people have for people who are different from themselves.

While I was walking through downtown Nijmegen, I was

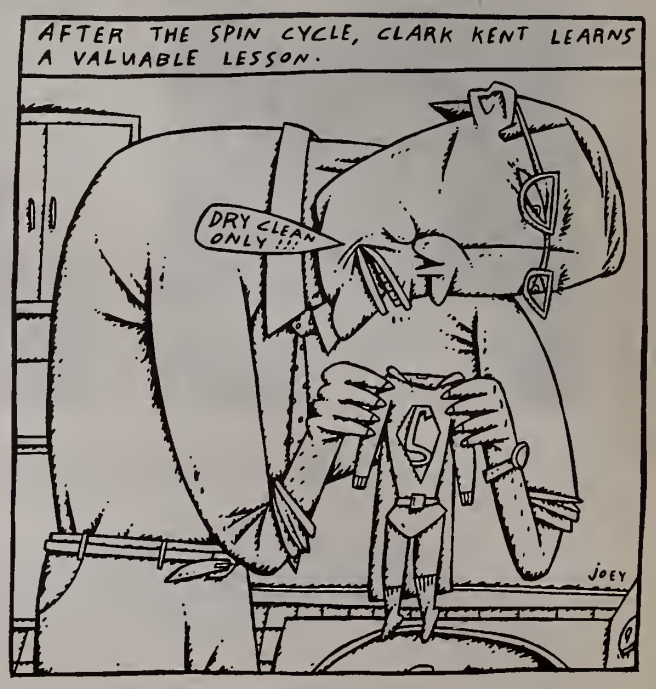
"Holland is a wonderful place to take a vacation."

struck by how many different cultures are represented in just a small stretch of street. In the bookstore, one could purchase books in Dutch or German, Christmas cards in English, and Garfield calenders right out of the USA. Around the corner there was an Indian restaurant, next to which was an expensive Italian shoe store.

Most Dutch teenagers speak English fluently. Many also speak German and French just as well. Television programs are usually in English or German, and rarely in Dutch. There's is a nationality of multiligualism.

Because Holland is such small country, its inhabitants are far less reluctant to try new and exotic things from other countries. I was amazed at this enthusiasm the Dutch have during my stay in the Netherlands. While I was strolling through a shopping center, I noticed a vending machine a few feet away. I was thrilled because I was thirsty and thought I was going to be able to get a Coke. Much to my surprise, the machine was a french fry vending machine. (By the way, the Dutch eat their french fries with curry ketchup, mayonnaise, and raw onions). I tried some of the vending machine fries and they were actully very good.

Holland is a wonderful place to take a vacation. More than that, it is an ideal place to get an idea of how to show tolerence towards people who are different fom ourselves. I have personally made many changes in the way I perceive others since my visit to Holland.



Home for the Holidays

Ron Taupier is a Senior Business Management major.

by Ron Taupier
Opinion Editor

So how was it? Were the four days at home exceedingly painful? For a number of college students, it was their first time home since move-out day back in September. For many, the thought of feasting on turkey and homeade pie was the only thing to look forward to for this holiday visit back home.

Most likely the questions started flowing on the car ride home on Wednesday, right after your parents helped you stow your dirty laundry into the family car. Probably, they were questions like, "Why is your room such a mess?", "Who is that strange person living on your floor?" and "Are you eating?" No, mother...I perpetually starve myself to see how long I can last without a solid meal in my stomach. Parents!

The questions just kept on coming didn't they? It seems that parents just don't know when to quit. We are three-quarters through our semester, diligently beginning to study for final examinations, and the only conversation we evoke from our parents is about how we are dressed, whether we are eating properly, and if we are getting along with our roommates. Why so many questions? Can't we just retire to our humble abodes and leave part of the semester behind us?

Then we are faced with the issue of curfews. Curfews...now that I am a senior that word has been banished from my vocabulary, yet I distinctly recall my freshman year going home only to hear, "so where are you going tonight and when can we expect you home?" Expect me home? Well mother, if I was in school I would return "home" around four in the morning unless my roommates and I decide to watch the second movie we rented, in that case around six. I don't think that this response would fly so well though, so we are beckoned home because we are under their roof and must abide by their rules. Rules...that is just one word that most of the college population ignores.

Painstakingly, I am sure that you survived the initial interrogation. Now, you must sit through a lengthy Thanksgiving meal and avoid all possible questions about how well you are doing in class. Class...remember...those are the one hour things you go to twice a week as a freshman. Yes, mother (you try your damnedest to demonstrate how witty you have become) I have gained a particular fondness for Greek Art...blah...blah...blah. Pass the gravy please. The trip home is nearly over. Just keep smiling and eating, and in the back of your mind devise a way to transport as many left-overs back to school with you as possible.

Rugged Individualism and friendship

by Andrew Shanley
Contributing writer

Okay, so explain this to me...why is it, when I'm walking around campus in a good mood and say, "Hi, how are you doing?" to people, the response I'm getting makes me feel like I just said a bad word? Why can't I say, "Hello, nice day isn't it?" and expect a positive response. Perhaps people are a little too caught up in this crazy world we live in. If I want to say "hi" to people, and who knows, make someone else's day a little brighter, I will. The problem here on campus is that for some reason...no one cares.

I remember walking through the Quad, and saying, "Hi, how are you doing?" to some guy and he said right back at me, "##$% you..." maybe he wasn't having a good day, or perhaps he just misunderstood me. Or maybe he just didn't care. This type of a response reflects the attitudes of the entire campus. Here we are in college, where we interact with different people from different parts of the state, country, and world and we don't even know how to get along in an adult manner. Now, all I want to know is...why?

Is everyone alone? Does this mean that nobody gives a damn? It's a sorry state of affairs when we can't even talk to each other in passing. Perhaps I like to think that people are truly nice inside. Perhaps I'm getting too over-reactive, but look at our social norms here on campus. In my view...everyone is stuck-up. Everybody seems to only care for numero uno...themselves. Why? Why can't we all just get along? This college campus seems more like an overglorified high school. It's all a giant click, and everyone is in a group.

Now I strongly believe that I am an individual. I don't like following the crowd and conforming. That is why I like to be ORIGINAL. A unique concept don't you think? High school is over people. We should be true to ourselves and accept others for who they are, not how much beer they can guzzle down in 30 seconds. If you enjoy classical music...turn it up! If you like plaid golfing pants...wear them. Whatever you like, whatever feels good, do it and be proud of it! What really disturbs me is the mentality of this college, and its "fear of the unknown". So many people have given me dirty looks for the way I dress. I don't care. I'll dress the way I damn well feel like; wait, that was unfriendly. I apologize.

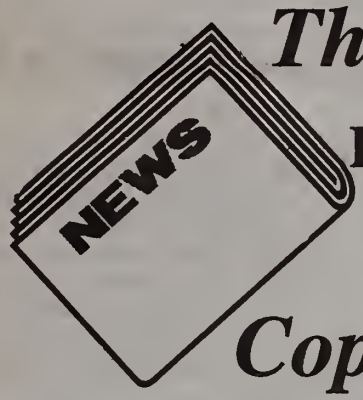
Here lies my point: Everyone is so confused and engrossed in rejecting anyone who is different. Folks, we represent the future of this country and the world. If we cannot come together here, what chance will we have to eliminate racism, or discrimination of women? This is my first semester here and it befuddles me how people can live with this "separation syndrome" that spreads like a plague. I would like to impart on my readers to start a movement. How about the "Random Kindness Movement". Let's not be so negative. Being negative brings people down.

So by now you must think that I am nuts. Well, that's okay because I am. Just because I wish to bring students and society closer together. Is that unimaginable?

Arms to yourself, continued from page 6

ment, they cannot be in every place at every time. I hate the thought of shooting someone, but if I were awakened at 2 a.m. to my shattering window, what choice do I have? Obviously the first thing I would do is call the Police, but during the time I call and the time they arrive, the intruder(s) could kill me or my family.

We own guns because we can. This is the United States of America, one of the few places on Earth where people are allowed to own guns.



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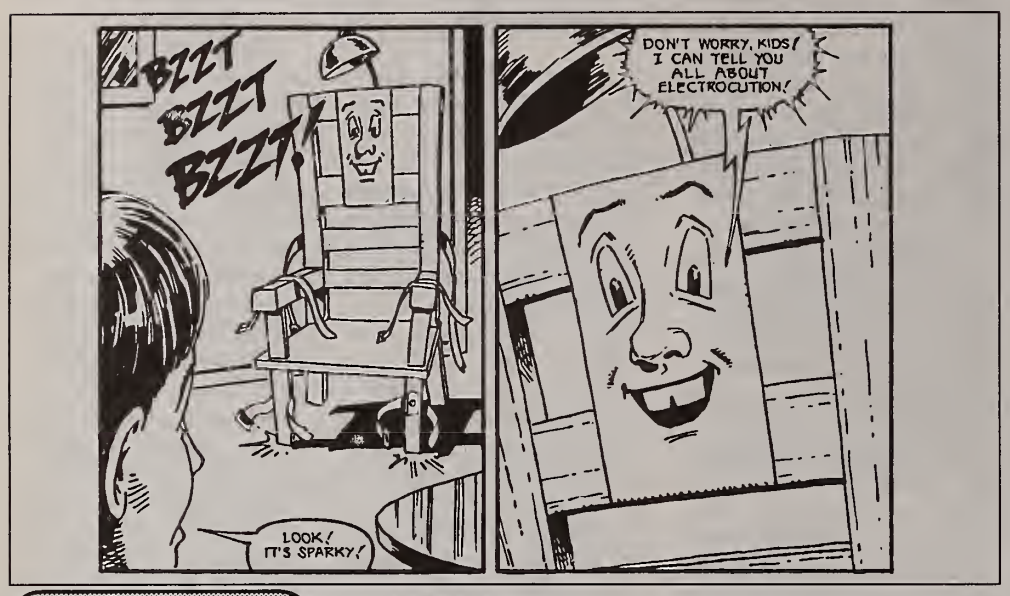
"Death" gives little drama



Kevin Robertson is a Senior English professional writing major

For anyone out there with a fascination with death, the artists who collaborated on the "Big Book of Death," have put together everything you could want to know on this most morbid of topics.

Given that the author uses horror artists to present these tales, you might expect to find bone-chilling horror stories in the tradition of "Tales From The Crypt" or "Creepshow." However, this is not the case.

This book is quite possibly the largest collection of death facts in the known universe. Each story is a walk through a different way to die. It is a reference library of death, with little drama or humor.

The chapter on public execution describes the proper way to hang someone and the intricacies of how an electric chair works. There also is a story about one particularly nurturing father executioner teaching his son the old methods of public death.

Other chapters, Mass Death and Weird Deaths, cover aspects of how to join the "big sleep." this includes the Jonestown Massacre, the media's fixation on death, and other really bizarre shit.

The first problem with this book is that it is not about horror, it's a death biography. The book would be better if it t pped the imaginations of some of the great horror artists who tell the stories, rather than merely have them relate factual accounts of deaths.

Second, this is an extremely depressing and dark book. Each story is an examination of a different way to die, and it just seems like there's no reason or sense of humor to any of it.

I have to admit, however, I found I few high points in the collection. "Old Sparky" by Steve Dillion, is a story about an electric chair that is really cynical and funny. Dillion is the creator of the brilliant "Preacher"(Vertigo) comic series.

The "Weird Death" chapter is interesting due to the oddness of the deaths. Each artists tells of nine deaths, each about the length of a page.

The story about the media's fixation with death is fascinating. Among the most interesting were several examples where cameramen filmed suicides instead of preventing them. The chapter culminates with a camera crew going to Jonestown, and being killed, all while the camera was rolling.

"The Big Book Of Death" may be fascinating to some, but it should have been done in a different way. For all of you who enjoyed the cult film series "Faces of Death," this for you. For normal people and those who don't aspire to be a coroner, just skip this one.

Serenity & Variety featured at WITS

by Kim Rosado
Contributing writer

Emotional and awe inspiring, "The Emergence and Impact of Professional Artistic Women" was a powerful statement to everyone in the audience.

The women, Thelma Khelgati, Christine Pierce, and Caryl Sickul performed in Weston Auditorium Nov. 14 at a program sponsored by WITS(Women In Today's Society).

As the audience waited for the performance to begin, Dan Paulsen on sitar and Chris Brigham on tabla played a soft, relaxing tune called "Evening Raga.".

Odd, it seemed, to begin an evening dedicated to artistic women with male performers, and yet their music lent to the theme of serenity and variety about to be experienced.

Thelma Khelghati's began with a powerful oration of "Phenomenal Woman" by Maya Angelou. She spoke of the many roles of the traditional and contemporary woman- that of mother, wife, lover, professional, decision maker, and peacemaker

Khelghati's performance focused on the pain, joy, and pride of the female experience. She read excerpts from women authors Judy Grahn, Joy Hajo, Denise Levertov, and Alice Walker. Her dramatic readings called out "women must learn to dare to speak."

Christine Pierce, a pianist/soloist and F.S.C. graduate, was the next performer. Pierce, who currently works as a case manager for Montachusett Home Care Corporation, highlighted three events from her life which she said have guided her: A rabbi's story of his experience in the holocaust; her own father's death; and her mother's inadequate health care.

She played the theme from "Schindler's List," fulfilling a promise she made to the rabbi to never forget his story. Then she performed "Send In the Clowns" in memory of her father, whom she called the clown who forgot his smile.

Next, she played "Gymnopedie", her mother's favorite song, and dedicated it to her. Not to leave the crowd on a solemn note, she sang the upbeat "Friends." Talented and warm, Pierce moved many to the point of tears.

The final performer was Caryl Sickul. Sickul introduced multicultural dance and music from Japan, India, and Eastern Europe. She combined her knowledge of different dance forms and her own feelings to present creative, authentic expression. Her routine included "Dreamtime," "Latcho Prom," and "Prana."

Sickul, an Associate Professor of Dance and Health and Fitness, displayed how self-expression can be an effective form of learning, just as dance can be a powerful tool for communication. Sickul makes use of every part of her body. She strongly and clearly states "We do not know each other's language....we know each other."

Through dance, music, and poetry, these three talented women give an emotionally-charged, introspective interpretation of what it means to be a woman.

One woman's look at men, children, sex, and death

by Kevin Robertson
A&E Editor

In "Girl Hurt," the debut poetic testament by FSC graduate E.J. Miller Laino, we see a woman's heart cut open to reveal the pain and love of her life.

Laino gives the reader insight into her brainwaves. We see her constantly questioning her feelings toward men, children, sex, and death.

Each section of the book, published by Alice James Books in Maine, provides a different view of a facet of her life. The first sections "Words and Sex," and "Hard Words" are an anthology of sexual experiences.

Following sections contain poetic memories of family connections seen through her eyes. Mostly this part is about her troubles with her parents.

The third section deals more with her own family, her daughter and their relationship together. She also deals with marital problems in this section.

"Girl Hurt" isn't a collection, but rather, a testament of feelings and emotions that builds and rises to a crescendo.

"I don't want any man to talk to me during sex," she says in "Words and Sex." "Those words are as fake as the N.Y. skyline behind the desk of the talk show host. Let the body do the work."

With an erotic use of language and a stylish meter scheme, E.J. Miller Laino lets the words flow effortlessly and allows the body to do the work.

Something to Talk About

Look which pop superstar played at Weston Auditorium back in 1980. That's right, Bonnie Raitt made FSC her first stop on her American tour thanks to that year's Program's Committee.

Toe Jam-forum for local art, music, and fiction

by Kevin Robertson
A&E Editor

Art, music, and politics are covered with youthful verve by the writers of Toe Jam, a local magazine published by a couple from Lunenburg.

Jeff and Kristi Mendoza spend their spare time writing, editing, and doing layout for their bi-monthly publication.

Jeff, a local artist and musician, started the magazine after noticing a friend's studio newsletter didn't have enough news to make it worthwhile. He decided to help him out, which eventually lead to his own magazine.

"What we've seen is that society treats our generation like we don't do anything," Jeff said. "We want (our magazine) to change people's minds and make them think."

Kristi envisions the magazine as a forum for local writers and artists. "We're trying to give people a place where they can send their art, poetry, and opinions and have their voice heard."

The magazine publishes articles about local bands, poetry by students, and local art. Most of the art and writing are done by the couple.

"In issue five, I only wrote one thing, but in the earlier issues I wrote almost everything," Jeff said. "And it's hard when you have to do the editing and the layout and all the graphics, and then have to write five or six articles. We have to beg for writers."

The focus of the magazine may at this point be music, but they want to open it up to all possible subjects, especially politics. The Mendozas feel that this subject needs to be made more important.

"When we were teenagers, politics were never important in our lives and when it came time to make decisions, we were unprepared," said Jeff. "One of the things we want to do is give the kids who read Toe Jam the chance to become more interested and informed about politics earlier in life."

The Mendoza's also appear to have merged a successful magazine with a successful marriage. "He does the writing and editing and I add suggestions and then I do the layout because I know the computer system better," said Kristi.

Jeff says that their relationship helps with the publication of Toe Jam. "We stay out of each other's way, but we're there when the other needs help."

With their publishing and advertising numbers rising, the couple hopes to continue to get bigger. "We're trying to give a forum for people to express their ideas, beyond that we're just looking to put out the magazine and have fun."

To receive copies or to send work to Toe Jam, write to Toe Jam, P.O. Box 405, Lunenburg, MA,01462-0405 or call (508) 582-0088.

Fall Final Exam Schedule

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
Class Time	Exam Block	Class Time	Exam Block	Class Time	Exam Block
8:30	A	8:30	C	8:30	E
9:30	B	9:30	D	9:30	F
10:30	G	10:30	I	10:30	K
11:30	H	11:30	J	11:30	L
12:30	M	12:30	O	12:30	Q
1:30	N	1:30	P	1:30	R
2:30	S	2:30	U	2:30	X
3:30	T	3:30	W	3:30	Y

Exam Block Schedule

December	11	12	13	14	15	18	Storm Delay
8:30-10:20	F	C	A	D	E	B	10:00-11:50
10:30-12:20	H	K	I	L	G	J	11:50-1:40
12:30-2:20	P	M	Q	N	O	R	1:40-3:30
2:30-4:20	Y	S	X	W	U	T	3:30-5:30

Directions: From the class times chart identify the exam block letter that corresponds with the **first** class meeting time of the week

The exam will be given on that date and at that time in your regularly scheduled classroom.

"Powder" a conduit of energy

By Kevin Robertson
A&E Editor

Jeremy Reed doesn't just have a lot of energy, he's a conduit of it.

"Powder" features the adventures of a teenage boy, Reed, and his electric personality.

On the day Jeremy was born, his mother was struck dead by lightening during childbirth. Due to this freak occurrence, his skin is turned pure white (hence the name "Powder") and an unused part of his brain is awakened.

Jeremy, played spectacularly by Sean Patrick Flannery, harbors within him abilities and powers beyond the scope of humans.

But after living his first 15 years in almost complete isolation, his introduction to society is not a smooth transition.

Helping him to conform to society is a social worker, (Mary Steenburgen, *Parenthood*) a science teacher, (Jeff Goldblum, *Jurassic Park*) and a cop (Lance Henrikkson, *Aliens*).

Each lesson teaches him the range of human emotions and he even gains a few friends along the way.

Flannery is fantastic as Powder, whose role needed an actor that could be meek, smart, sensitive, caring, and sad all in one single scene. He pulls it off like a master. This is an Oscar-winning performance.

Steenburgen plays the same whiny character she always plays, and Henrikkson and Goldblum pull off their usual stellar performances. All three work together brilliantly.

The plot is solid and the story moves along at a great clip. This is one of only two perfect movies this year, "Braveheart" being the other.

Go and see this movie. If you don't, you're depriving yourself of a once in a lifetime experience.

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Spring Break '96

Volleyball Profile:

Kristie St. Cyr and Amanda Picansano

by Norman Miller
Sports Editor

Even though the volleyball team had a so so year, the season provided some excitement, and some good players.

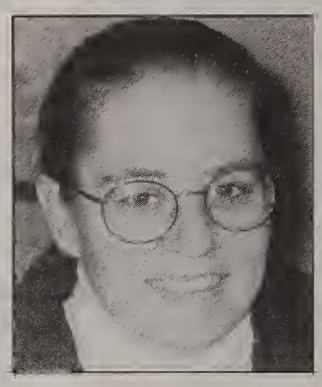
Two of those players were captains Kristie St. Cyr, a second-team All-MASCAC selection, and Amanda Picanso.

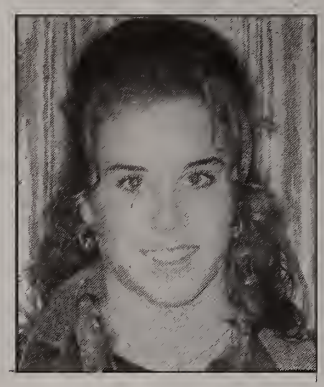
St. Cyr had an excellent season at outside hitter, filling her role as a first team captain by using her strong play as an example for others.

"I had a lot more duties," said St. Cyr. "I had to bring the team together more, which is very tough at times, bringing 15 girls together."

In high school in her home town of Billerica, Mass., St. Cyr wasn't the star she is now, she was a defensive specialist, who spent a lot of time on the bench, but has worked hard to become the player she is today.

"You learn new things every day," said St. Cyr. "You improve your skills everyday. To go from high school to a starter in college, that was great."





As a sophomore, St. Cyr was a member of the volleyball team that won the MASCAC championship, but see's this team as a better team because of team chemistry. But the game she'll remember most is from this season.

"Our last home game, when we came back and won, after we lost the first two matches. It was my last game, and probably the best."

St. Cyr will be graduating this spring with a degree in business management and a minor in economics, but she'll miss volleyball the most.

"There isn't anything I won't miss. I miss it already."

Her teammate, Amanda Picanso, discovered volleyball as a freshman at Haverhill high school when, in gym class, they played for the first time. Instantly, she was hooked.

"I just had a knack for it," said Picanso. "It just became real easy for me."

Like St. Cyr, Picanso is also serving as a captain for the first time, and they both play the same position, outside hitter. Picanso gives a lot of credit to her coach for her improved play over the years.

"In high school I was never really a good out side hitter. But my coach, Bob Murry, taught me to be a decent outside hitter."

Her defining moment this season came in a game against Framingham State. She was sick with Bronchitis, which aggravated her asthma. But she played anyhow, trying not to disappoint her teammates. With the team down two sets to none, and down 11-2 in the third set, she served up twelve straight points, leading the team to a victory. The Falcons ended up winning the whole match.

"I was really sick, but I played anyways, and I had, probably, my best game of the season. A lot of people told me that it was the best game they had seen me play."

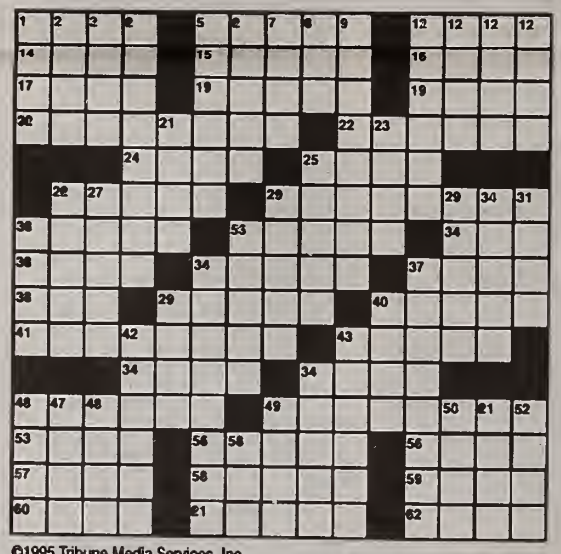
After graduating with a degree in sociology this spring, Picanso is thinking of becoming a police officer, or maybe going back to school.

"All in all it was very enjoyable, and it was fun, and I enjoyed it a lot. I'll miss the competition."

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Strobe, (Issue 9), in the article "Football profile: The Couto brothers," the correct spelling of Chris and Keith's last name is Coutu.

THE Crossword



ACROSS
1 Brink
5 Kind of committee
10 Bedouin
14 Open space
15 Swimming stroke
16 Timber wolf
17 Break
18 Kind of lily
19 Name
20 Reprimands
22 Anchored
24 Force out
25 Sad news item
26 Up to now
28 Punish
32 Released
33 Fountain item
34 Morning moisture
35 Fish-eating eagle
36 Portion
37 Rescue
38 — Alamos
39 Seedlike body
40 Different
41 Certain bills
43 A utensil
44 Feedbag filler
45 Kind of delivery: abbr.
46 Safe
49 Crimes at gunpoint
53 Rugged cliff
54 Lawbreaker
56 Remove wrinkles
57 — mater
58 Serviceable, old style
59 Title
60 Borscht vegetable
61 Puts cargo aboard
62 Merriment

DOWN
1 Formerly, once
2 Finished
3 Ambition
4 Hired hand
5 Approach and speak to
6 Air current
7 Football period
8 Bird of prey
9 Cookout's cousin
10 "Little Women" author
11 Bellow
12 Competent
13 Fearless
21 Took legal action
23 Fr. river
25 Busy airport
26 Item in a quiver
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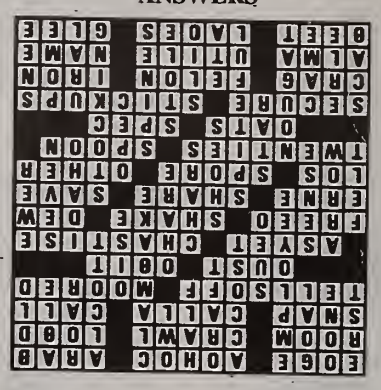
ANSWERS



Women's Basketball, contiued from page 11.

"There's not one person who is going to make the team better, it's a team effort," said Robidoux.

One team Gladden is looking forward to is the first game after the semester break, when Fitchburg State takes on rival Worcester State. Fitchburg lost by 13 points their first meeting last season, but almost won their second meeting, losing only by four.

"It'll be exciting," said Gladden. "It's a game I'll be looking forward to."

The Falcons started off their season at the Pine Manor Tourney, but lost both games. They're first home game is December 2, when they host Curry. FSC starts divisional play after the semester break.

"I really hope to go .500," said Gladden. "I'm not going to be happy if we win one game. Hopefully we'll win six, seven, eight, maybe double digits in wins this year."

Hockey, continued from page 12.

scored by Mastrangelo and assisted by Centrella and Baldassare. The Falcon's last goal of the night was scored by Damon Moore on a fast break with some help from Pillsbury and Baldassare.

With less than eleven minutes to play the score read: Fitchburg 6, U-Mass 3. U-Mass only needed less than five minutes to tie things up, which they did quite handily. Jason Rotondo, Toni Gilardi, and Dwyer each scored a goal to tie the score up at 6-6 with 6:35 to go.

Coach Dean Fuller said, "We had some breakdowns and they capitalized."

The crowd was wild as the two teams battled to win the game, but it went into a five minute, sudden death, over time.

The Falcons played as hard as they could in the overtime, but Jason Rotondo set his brother up again to score the game winning goal and a hat trick.

"We haven't played an ECAC North league game yet. We've got five before the semester break and we're just going to concentrate on those." said Coach Fuller. Do not count the team out just yet.

After hosting rival Worcester State yesterday in a key Sterling Cup match up, the Falcons will try to get on track when they play Framingham next Tuesday.

Brian Lamy is a Junior Communications/Graphic Design major

Women's Baketball looks for a better season

Norrman Miller is a Junior English professional writing major.

by Norman Miller
Sports Editor

There's only one way for the Fitchburg State women's basketball team to go after going 0-21 last season, and that's up.

The Falcons are back with a new look. The team has only returning four players, and also have a new coach—Carrie Gladden, a former assistant coach and former player of rival Worcester State.

"It looks better than last year's team," said tri-captain Becky Robidoux (13.3 points, 8.5 rebounds per game). "The team chemistry is much better."

Also serving for captains this season are juniors Dianne Horwath (6.1 points, 1.8 assists) and Amy Harrington (3.7 ppg, 4.3 rpg). The last returning player is sophomore Stacy Shanks.

But the Falcons lost their second leading rebounder of all-time, Allyson McGinn, who led the team in rebounding with 10.4 per game. Another player not returning is three point specialist Pam Wilkman, who hit 30 of Fitchburg's 38 three-pointers last season.

Another problem that Fitchburg State will have to fight through is the lack of recruits. Gladden was hired too late to go out and try to find some players. But with six newcomers the team will have more talent.

"We're young, we're real young," said Gladden. "We have more talent this year than last year. We have some people who want to play basketball. From what I understand, our talent from last year to this year, we're already a step ahead."

One area where the team will be improved is at guard. Last season, the Falcons started Wilkman and Horwath in the backcourt, but neither were true point guards, turning the ball over a total of 632 times. This season's incoming players include a good shooter, Bridgitt Guiles, and a true point guard in Erica Alston.

"She's good," said Gladden of Alston. "She's very good. She's a true point guard. Dianne is a very good guard, but not a true point guard."

Some other top newcomers are 5-10 junior Annmarie Campo, a member of the FSC cross country team, and forward Paula Mahoney.

One advantage the team has from the lack of returning players is the fact that some of the pressure of going winless last season may be lifted. But the memory's still there for Fitchburg State.

"We need to relax," said Gladden. "The monkey's on our back, we didn't win a game last year. If we win one game, it's better than last year."

To get that one win, the Falcons will have to play some defense, something the team lacked last season in giving up over 70 points per game, while scoring only 47.1 ppg. Also, with the loss of McGinn, the Falcons lose their leading steal person, and second leading blocker. She had 42 steals and 23 blocks.

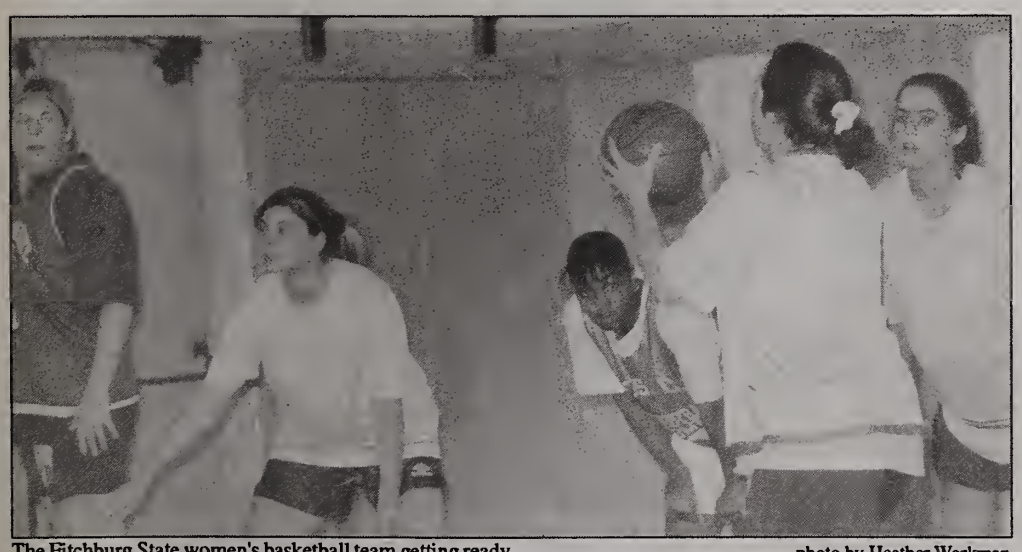
"We're going to change 100 percent from last season," said Gladden.

Another thing the Falcons will need to realize is that the team is not talented enough to rely on one player, that to win some games, they'll need a total team effort.

"I'll be happy if the whole team as a unit plays well. Not just individual players," said Gladden.

Continued on page 10.

Women's Basketball loses in tournament



The Fitchburg State women's basketball team getting ready to take flight this season. photo by Heather Workman

by Norman Miller
Sports Editor

The Fitchburg State women's basketball team hoped to get off to a quick start this season, but those plans fell short as they lost both games of the Pine Manor Tourney on November 17 and 18.

In their opening game against against UM of Machias, the Falcons were shot down early, being down 47-22 at the half.

Fitchburg State doubled their point total in the second half, ending with 44 points, but UM Machias put up another 34 points, giving them the win 81-44.

In the game, Becky Robidoux led FSC with 19 points. Dianne Horwath added another 12 points.

The second day of the tournament saw no relief in the consolation game, losing 76-50 to Suffolk University.

Robidoux poured in 12 of her 22 points in the first half, but FSC was still down 45-24.

Fitchburg State scored 26 more points in the second half, but still were defeated when Suffolk added another 31. Erika Alston, Stacy Shanks, and Amy Harrington all scored six points, tying for the teams second most points.

The Falcons travel to UMass-Boston tomorrow, and return home on Saturday to host Curry College at 1:00pm.

Men's Basketball 2-1

by Norman Miller
Sports Editor

The Fitchburg State basketball team traveled to Plymouth State to take part in the Plymouth State Tournament, losing the first game, but coming back and winning their next game.

The Falcons lost the first game 89-62 to Teikyo Post University. Leading scorers for FSC were Seante Harris and Greg McClintock with 14 apiece, and Mike Raimon with 13 points. For the game the Falcons shot a combined .323. Chris Hunt had nine rebounds in the losing effort.

The next day, the Falcons pulled things together, beating Notre Dame College, 88-68. Leading the way for Fitchburg State were Raimon and Hunt. Raimon scored 36 points, had seven rebounds, and five assists. Hunt had a double-double, with 16 points and ten rebounds. As a team, FSC increased their shooting percentage to .455.

On November 21, Fitchburg traveled to UMass-Boston, and left with their second victory of the season, wining 75-69.

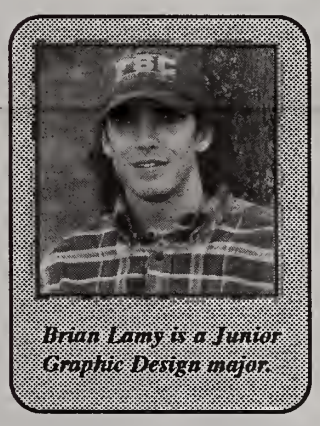
In the first half, the Falcons shot a putrid .211, connecting on only 8 of 38 attempts.

But FSC erased the 19 point deficit in the second half, and ended up winning 75-69.

Raimon poured in another 30 points, while adding seven rebounds. McClintock added 20 points, five assists, and four steals.

Fitchburg State travels to Western New England College tomorrow, and have their first home game of the season on December 5, when they host Endicott College.

Men's Basketball ready to go



Brian Lamy is a Junior Graphic Design major.

The Fitchburg State men's basketball team began practice over a month ago, and played their first games of the season before Thanksgiving, going 1-1 in the Plymouth State Tournament, and are looking to better their record.

Fitchburg State is carrying sixteen players, eight of which are returning from last year. Returning to the team this year will be Captain Mike Raimon, Chris Hunt, Jamie Margoupis, Tasos Tempos, Jason Bartlett, Jason Dyer, David Anwar, and Don Zollo.

Four players graduated last year, but only two of them were starters. One of the losses was Richard Harding, who was the team's second leading scorer last season, as well as FSC's all-time leading assist leader.

Freshman Greg McClintock and Mike Reyes will try to fill Harding's shoes. Returning players, Bartlett and Anwar will also be up for that position.

Coach Bob Bonci is looking for Margoupis, Hunt, Tempos, Jason Reid, Andy Fequa an Indiana native, and Tom Levett to step up as the new season rolls along. These players should be major contributors and should help ease the load on Ramon who will have a tough time out doing last season's performance.

"We've got pretty good size," said Bonci, when asked what the team has going for them this season.

Indeed they do. There must be something in the water these days because the freshman are huge this year. Newcomers Tom Levetts stands in at 6-6, Joe Therio at 6-6, and Fequa at 6-5 should help the Falcons this season. Tasos Tempos at 6-3 and Chris Hunt at 6-5 will also be on the court.

"We definitely have to work on playing together," said Bonci. "We are up tempo and, when we get in a half court situation sometimes we seem to go and play individual."

With a little work, the Falcons should be in the clear. They have the size and the talent to get the job done and will be looking to beat last season's record of 13-12. Although it was a winning record, the team wants more. Bonci says to keep in mind that this is a building season, and wats to win at least fifteen games this to get the word out that they are well on their on their way up.

The Falcons will travel to Western New England College to play tomorrow night at 7:30.

UNBELIEVABLE!

Hockey off to a 0-3 start

by Norman Miller, Sports Editor and Brian Lamy, Production Assistant

Oh, how far have the mighty Falcons fallen?

The unthinkable has happened, the Fitchburg State hockey team, perennial power houses, have got off to an uncharacteristic bad start, going 0-3 to begin the season, with losses to UMass-Dartmouth, Skidmore, and UMass-Boston.

In the season opener on November 15, the Falcons seeked revenge against the team who beat them in last years championship, UMass-Dartmouth. But the team will have to wait for that revenge until the post season, as they fell in defeat 3-1.

Both teams played even against each other in the first period, with neither team getting the upper hand, and each team getting good goal tending, yet neither team could capitalize on their two power play opportunities.

The second period was a different story, with the Corsairs taking control. With 14:35 remaining, UMD scored their first goal of the period, when Mike Doherty shot the puck over the glove of goalie Aaron Abitz, making it 1-0.

UMass took advantage of their power plays in the period, scoring two power play goals. With 9:12 gone from the period, Jarrod Dibona shot a low liner, that was just out of the reach of Abitz, making it 2-0.

Ten minutes later the Corsairs scored a controversial goal. After a penalty on Fitchburg, one referee had his back turned to the action to explain to the score keeper what the penalty was for, the other referee dropped the puck, and the Corsairs took advantage of the unready Falcons, with Marc Salvi slapped it by Abitz.

Fitchburg State had many opportunities to score, but UMD goalie Shawn Grenier had an excellent game, making many great saves.

Since the Falcons couldn't score a power play goal, they had to put one in the net when short handed. With 17:01 remaining in the game, defenseman Damon Moore scored an unassisted sliding goal, bringing it within two, 3-1.

Joe Turner (#2) facing off in FSC's 3-1 loss to UMass Dartmouth last week. photo by Heather Workman

But Grenier stopped everything else that came near him, shutting FSC out for the rest of the game, and giving UMD the win.

On November 15, FSC got squashed 8-4, when they traveled to New York to take on Skidmore College. Scoring goals for the Falcons were Pat Turner, two goals by Mark Pillsbury, and one by Bill Mastrangelo.

On November 18, Fitchburg State came into this game in a slump with an 0-2 record, but were fired up and ready to go back to their winnings ways on their home ice against U-Mass Boston, who beat them in overtime last year. It's to bad that U-Mass had a different idea.

The Falcons took control of the puck at the first face off and kept control until Captain Steve Baldassare took a slap shot from right out front, sending the puck past U-Mass goalie Gene Bono 1:22 seconds into the first period. Baldassare was assisted by Dan Genatossio and Pat Turner. This put the Falcons up 1-0 and lifted their hopes.

U-Mass Boston struck back minutes later when the puck was bobbled out in front of the net and Jason Rotondo slipped one past Aaron Abitz after receiving a nice pass from his teammate Dennis Dwyer. This tied things up at 1-1.

Gennatossio, who was assisted by Mark Pillsbury and Baldassare, then stepped up and score goal number one of his hat trick when he shot one through the five-hole of Bono. Gennatossio's goal put the Falcons back on top with 8:15 left to play in the first period.

U-Mass came back strong in the second half scoring two goals just minutes apart. The first was by Michael Welby and the second was scored by Jason Rotondo from his brother Joseph Rotondo. These two goals put U-Mass back on top with a one goal lead 3-2.

The Falcons then tied things up again at 3-3. Gennatossio was assisted by Joe Centrella and Bill Mastrangelo for the second goal of his hat trick with 9:30 left to play in the second half.

Something happened in the locker room during that second intermission because the Falcons burst out of the locker room on fire. They scored three goals just minutes apart from each other at the beginning of the second half. The first was scored by Genatossio, which completed his hat trick. Baldassare was in on the goal for the assist. The next was a power play goal

Contiued on page 10.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF THE SEMESTER

HOCKEY
Saturday, December 2, at Plymouth State, 5:00 pm
Tuesday, December 5, at Framingham State, 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 7, at home against Roger Williams, 7:30 pm
Saturday, December 9, at Curry College, 8:00 pm

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Thursday, November 30, at Western New England College, 7:30 pm
Tuesday, December 5, at home against Endicott College, 7:30 pm
Thursday, December 7, at home against Nichols College, 8:00 pm
Saturday, December 9, at Anna Maria College, 3:00 pm

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Thursday, November 30, at UMass-Boston, 7:30 pm
Saturday, December 2, at home against Curry College, 1:00 pm
Tuesday, December 5, at UMass-Dartmouth, 6:00 pm
Thursday, December 7, at home against Nichols College, 6:00 pm
Saturday, December 9, at Anna Maria College, 1:00 pm

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK
Friday, December 1, at Tufts Invitational, 3:30 pm
Saturday, December 9, at Wesleyan Invitational, time to be set

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK
Saturday, December 2, at the Brown Invitational, time to be set
Saturday, December 9, at the Wesleyan Invitational, time to be set

Intramural Corner

by Brian Bicknell
Intramural Director

This league's intramural basketball games started out with the Broxs' defeating the Unstoppables. Aaron Dotlin cashed in for 24 points in that 63-33 blow out.

The game of the week, however, was the highly anticipated Barry versus Fire and Ice match up on Monday night. Richard "Mokie" Harding backed his harsh comments before the game by pouring in a game, season, and career high 38 points. Antero "AJ" Texeira scored only a mere 11 points in the defeat. Harding received the player of the week award.

In B league action, the Staff team defeated Tuff Guys and the Hog Heads by scores of 72-44 and 69-33, respectively. Rod Malcolm spearheaded the Staff's attack with aggressive play on both ends of the court. Malcolm was named the co-player of the week.

The other player of the week was Paul Doherty, who, for the first time in B league history, dunked the ball on a break away.

"That looked like Dr. J. in "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh," was the comment made by more than one person after the dunk.

"Like Michael Jordan took over my body," said Dogga when asked how it felt.

Thursday night's games will be made up on December 4.